

Capsule Summary  
SM-633  
Mattingly Tobacco Barn  
Abell Vicinity  
Private

c. 1840

Usually seen as utilitarian structures, tobacco barns rarely received architectural embellishment as property owners often focused decorative attention upon their domestic residences. In exceptional cases, farmers communicated their prosperity through costly architectural expressions on agricultural outbuildings. Constructed c. 1840, the Mattingly Tobacco Barn definitely differentiated the Mattingly farm from neighboring properties. Situated on a property known as "Collingwood" or "Cobrum" near present day Abell, Maryland, the barn's main block measures twenty by forty feet. This section is surrounded by a series of twelve to eighteen foot sheds of earthfast and silled construction. Originally featuring only a north and south shed, subsequent periods of repairs and additions have obscured its historic appearance.

Enough evidence remains to see the Mattingly family's clear statement of agricultural competency and success. On the east and west gable ends, for instance, the barn's builders used unpainted, random-width, beaded clapboard fastened to the braced frame with cut nails. The doors were hung on neatly appointed, wrought strap hinges and were ringed by beaded jambs. Unlike traditional mid-nineteenth century barns, the horizontal clapboard hampered air circulation inside the building. To alleviate this, two louvered vents were constructed on each gable end. This was supplemented on the main block's south wall which was composed of well spaced, pit-sawn slats. Overall, these elements demonstrate how the Mattinglys experimented with barn form and refined what was normally a strictly functional building.

SM-633, Mattingly Tobacco Barn  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Historic Period Theme:	Agriculture Architecture

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function and Use:	Tobacco Barn
Known Design Source:	None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
Maryland Historical Trust HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. SM-633

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Collingwood, Cobrum

and/or common Mattingly Tobacco Barn (pref.)

**2. Location**

W side of Gerrard's Cove Rd., approx. 0.2 of a mile N of int. of Abell Rd. and Gerrard's Cove Rd.  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Abell \_\_\_\_\_ ☒ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 7

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county St. Mary's \_\_\_\_\_ TM 47, G-1, P-80

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			___ private residence
			___ religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Joseph W. and Mary M. Vallandingham

street & number PO Box 113 \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: 301-475-5709 or 9335

city, town Clements \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code Md 20624

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_ liber EWA 710

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ folio 225

city, town Leonardtown \_\_\_\_\_ state Md

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-633

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 3

The Mattingly Tobacco Barn is located on the west side of Gerrard's Cove Road approximately 100 yards north from the intersection of Abell Road and Gerrard's Cove Road near Abell, Maryland. A driveway and road border the tobacco barn on two sides, but the building retains much of its rural setting as flat agricultural fields border the other two sides. The barn appears to be in respectable structural shape although one of the main posts has failed and the wall plate has subsequently cracked. A contributing early twentieth century corner crib and tobacco barn are located just north of the barn.

The Mattingly Tobacco Barn, constructed c. 1840, is one of the most decoratively elaborate agricultural buildings documented thus far in St. Mary's County. It consists of a forty by twenty foot main block which is ringed on all sides by two original and two modern sheds. The interior originally consisted of a T-shaped plan with a front and rear shed. The main block and north shed rest on a fieldstone foundation with the stones strategically placed under the braced frame. At great cost to the original builders, random-width, beaded and feathered clapboard originally covered the wall surfaces. Attached to the frame with mature cut nails, this siding is still visible on the east, west, and north elevations, but has been supplemented in numerous spots with the more conventional plain vertical planks -- in many cases fastened with wire nails. Originally, the clapboard covered both the main block and north shed with the south shed left open.

While all of the sheds obscure the building's fenestration, entry is achieved through the largely open south side through a set of paired doors. These doors, constructed of vertical planks attached to battens with wrought nails and hung with wrought strap hinges, permits entry into the main block's center aisle. The main block's side aisles are entered through single doors of similar construction located on the east and west sides. The rear or south longitudinal aisle can be accessed through a single door located on either the east or west gable ends. Interestingly, all of the aforementioned doors feature beaded jambs. Two louvered shutters, which are constructed into the walls, pierce the east and west gable ends. Ventilation on the south side is achieved through the use of widely spaced, pit-sawn slats. A combination of raised seam and corrugated metal materials cover the steeply pitched roof.

The interior of the main block consists of a transverse central aisle which terminates at a twelve foot longitudinal rear aisle -- creating a T-shaped arrangement. While the central aisle is entirely contained within the main block, the longitudinal aisle is actually enclosed within the north shed. The barn's floors are composed of dirt, but are not entirely free of obstruction. Transverse, hewn sills, for instance, effectively divide the main block into three spaces. These sills terminate on the north side at a longitudinal sill which demarcates the boundary of the north aisle. All of the sills are integrated into the frame through a series of down braces which are half-lapped, dovetailed, and pegged into the primary posts and sills. The primary and intermediate posts of the main block's north and south sides are all supported at the top of the wall by a hewn plate. Lapped over this plate are a series of hewn ties set on four foot centers. These ties mark the ten, four foot "rooms" of the barn which are used to hang tobacco. Extending down from these ties are a series of vertical supports for four tiers of horizontal tobacco poles. The structural ties also buoy the roof framing. A thick, flat board false plate lies over the ties and supports the hewn and pit-sawn rafters. Set on two foot centers, every other rafter pair features three collars which are half-lapped into the individual rafters while the other rafters exhibit robbed half-laps. All of the rafter pairs are joined at the peak with half-lap joints fastened with mature cut nails.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-633

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Usually seen as utilitarian structures, tobacco barns rarely received architectural embellishment as property owners often focused decorative attention upon their domestic residences. In rare instances, farmers communicated their prosperity through costly architectural expressions on agricultural outbuildings. Constructed c. 1840 on "Collingwood" or "Coburn", the Mattingly Tobacco Barn is a significant twenty by forty foot building surrounded by a series of twelve to eighteen foot sheds. Originally featuring only a north and south shed, subsequent periods of repairs and additions have obscured its historic appearance.

Enough evidence remains to see the Mattingly family's clear statement of agricultural competency and success. On the east and west gable ends, for instance, the barn's builders used unpainted, random-width, beaded clapboard fastened to the braced frame with cut nails. The doors were hung on neatly appointed, wrought strap hinges and were ringed by beaded jambs. Unlike traditional mid-nineteenth century barns, the horizontal clapboard hampered air circulation inside the building. To alleviate this, two louvered vents were constructed on each gable end. This was supplemented by south wall of the main block which was covered with well spaced, pit sawn slats. Overall, these elements demonstrate how the Mattinglys experimented with barn form and refined what was normally a strictly functional building.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-633

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acres around barnQuadrangle name LeonardtownQuadrangle scale 1:24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA 

Zone	Easting	Northing							

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing							

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate 6-16-98street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

SM-633, Mattingly Tobacco Barn  
St. Mary's County  
7.1 Description

The property also contains a contributing tobacco barn and a double-crib. Both buildings border Gerrard's Cove Road just north of the Mattingly Tobacco Barn. The double-crib rests on a cedar pole and cinderblock foundation. Constructed of circular sawn lumber, the sides are covered with reused vertical siding attached to the braced frame with wire nails. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. The east elevation features the only two doors which permit access into the two independent storage units for corn. Each of the doors exhibit reused wrought strap hinges.

The crudely constructed tobacco barn, built in the early twentieth century, is constructed of reused hewn timbers, presumably from an early nineteenth or late-eighteenth century tobacco barn. The braced frame rests on cedar stubs and the exterior is sheathed with vertical planks fastened with wire nails. The roof is covered with corrugated metal.

A door with wrought hinges on the west and north elevations and an opening on the east side permit access into the interior. While grain bins flank the east opening, the interior is not structurally divided. This open space features six, five foot rooms with two lower tiers for hanging of tobacco. Two upper tiers, formed by collars between the rafter pairs, fully utilize the space. Much of the interior has been borrowed from a previous structure. Closely spaced mortises suggest some of the beams came from a tobacco barn equipped with vertical nailers for horizontal clapboard. The original nail usage could not be determined from the framing.

SM-633, Mattingly Tobacco Barn  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber EWA 710, Folio 225

Grantee: Joseph W. and Mary M. Vallandingham

Grantor: Josephine H. Mattingly and Margaret Ann Alvey

Date: September 21, 1992

Notes: Called "Collingwood" or "Cobrum" the property is listed as containing 120 acres.

Reference: Liber EWA 702, Folio 187

Grantee: Josephine H. Mattingly and Margaret Ann Alvey

Grantor: Anna R. Mattingly, et al -- personal representatives of Edith Bailey Vogt

Date: May 28, 1992

Reference: Liber JMM 11, Folio 428

Grantee: Edith B. Mattingly

Grantor: R. Allan Mattingly and Agnes E. Mattingly

Date: May 20, 1939

Notes: Here the property is listed as containing 175 acres.

Reference: Liber EBA 7, Folio 290

Grantee: Robert A. Mattingly

Grantor: Daniel J. Mattingly

Date: September 26, 1908

Reference: Liber EBA 6, Folio 277

Grantee: Robert A. Mattingly

Grantor: Daniel J. Mattingly

Date: March 1, 1907

Reference: Liber EBA 2, Folio 346

Grantee: Robert A. Mattingly

Grantor: William F. Mattingly

Date: December 16, 1901

Notes: William F. Mattingly is listed as the son of Alice A. and William F. Mattingly.

Reference: Liber JFF 2, Folio 262

Grantee: William H. Mattingly

Grantor: JTM Raley, trustee

Date: August 14, 1876

Notes: Here, the property is listed as being part of Collingwood, Part of Hatchets Thick, and Part of Leesburg. The conveyance also notes that the sale was conducted at a public auction.

Reference: Decree Record Liber JFF 1, Folio 355

Date: 1872

Notes: In 1872 William F. Mattingly died in testate leaving a sizable estate to a number of heirs. In order to settle his affairs, a case was brought before the Circuit Court. In Avie Blair v. William H. Mattingly, the court decided to sell the property at public auction.

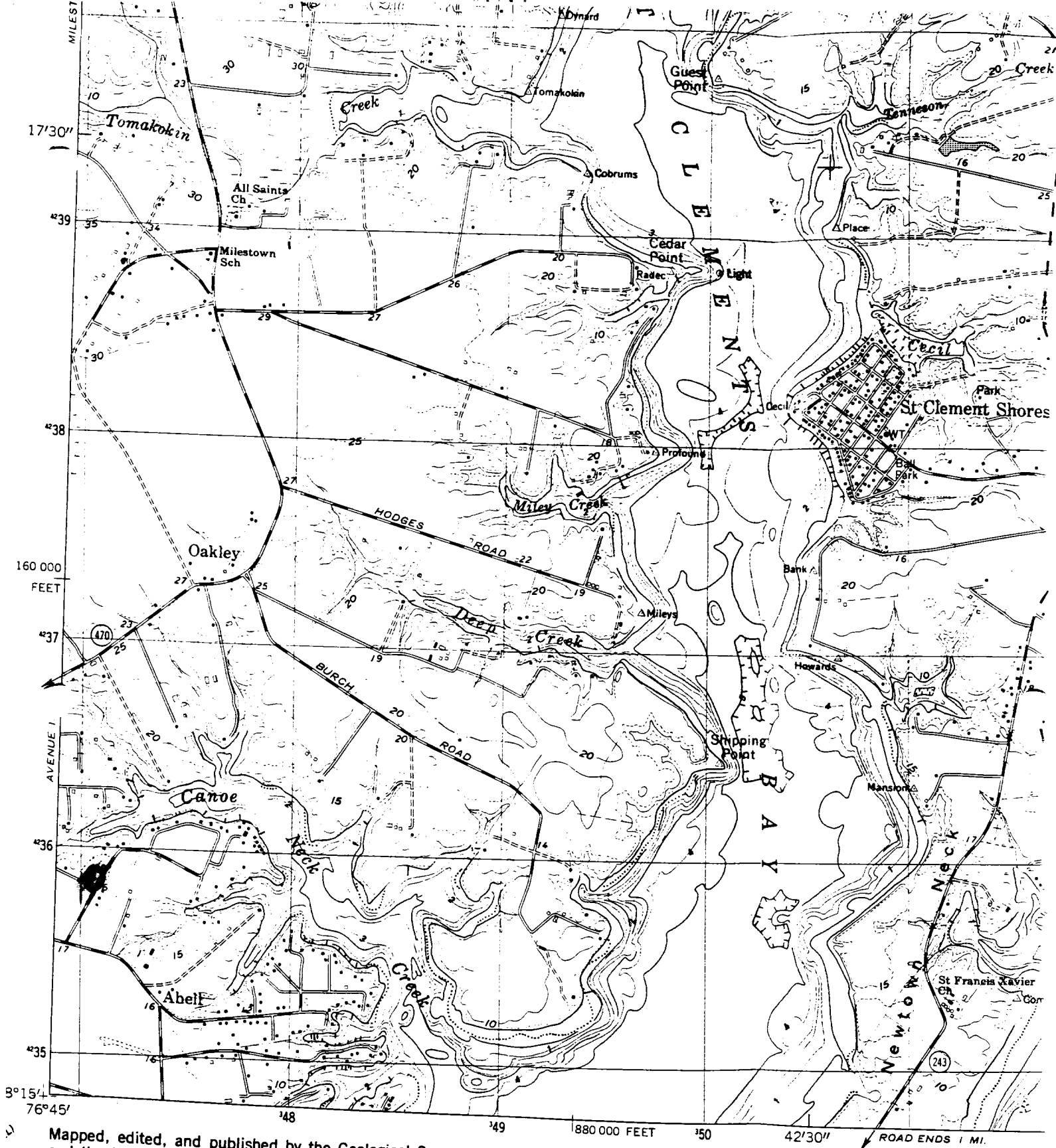


— SM-633, Mattingly Tobacco Barn  
St. Mary's County  
8.2 Significance

Reference: Annual Valuation of Real Estate and Personal Property JTMR 1, 1865-1919

Date: May 8, 1872

Notes: Upon the death of William F. Mattingly, the St. Mary's County Orphans Court appointed to appraisers to describe and value his property. In their description of the property, the pair note that the property contains 175 acres of clear and tillable land and 90 acres in woods. They also note that Collinwood contains 240 acres and Leesburg 25 acres. Among the many outbuildings associated with farm and main dwelling "2 good barns" are listed.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
and the National Ocean Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken  
1961. Field checked 1963

Hydrometry compiled by the National Ocean Survey from tide-coordinated  
photographic surveys. This information is not intended for navigational  
purposes

Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid) line  
compiled by NOS from tide-coordinated photographs. Apparent  
shoreline (outer edge of vegetation) shown by light solid line

Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Maryland  
coordinate system

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18

1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the

NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC  
HYDROGRAPHIC

SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

Abell Vicinity

Leonardtown Quad

C  
N  
R  
THE



SM 633

Mattingly Tobacco Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

4d SHO

N + E elevations

1 of 9



SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

Md SHPO

2+ W elevations

2 of 7



SM-633

Mattingly "Shrimp" Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Panzetta

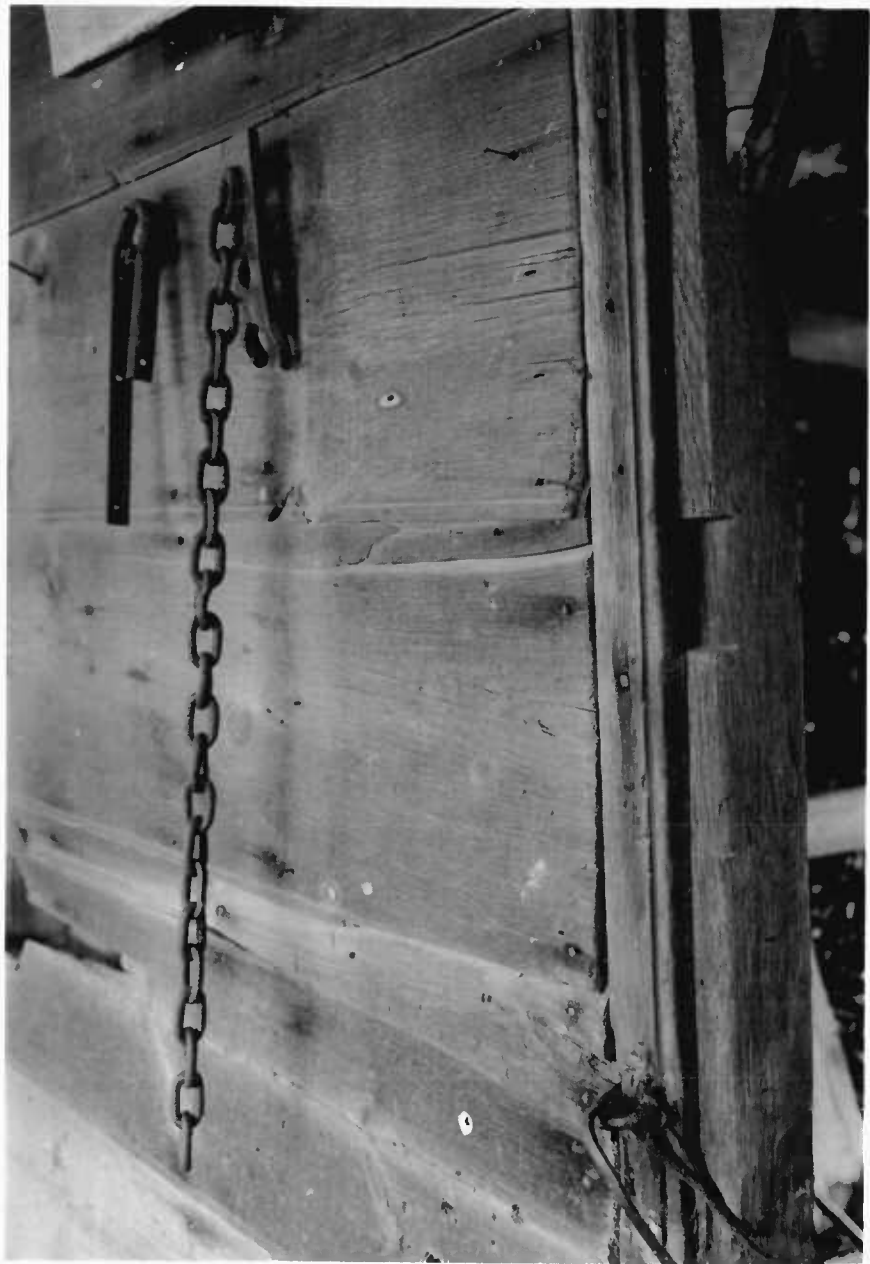
May/98

4d SHPO

Interior - looking E

2 of 9





SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranetta

May/98

MD SHPO

Interior - looking SW - detail of beaded door trim + clapboard

1 of 9



SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

and SHPO

Interior - (underground) - II elevation

5 of 9



SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ronzetta

May/73

MS SHP

Tobacco Barn #2 - S + W extensions

6 of 9



SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ronzetta

May/78

MD CHPO

Tobacco Barn H<sub>2</sub>O - N + E elevations

7 of 9









SM-633

Mattingly Tobacco Barn

St Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

MD SHPO

Double cribble (+ N elevations)

9 of 9